

Message Text

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60

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SY-04 SCCT-01 USSS-00 IO-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 JUSE-00

TRSE-00 INT-05 FEA-01 /079 W
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R 311804Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7349

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 0251

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, TD

SUBJECT: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LAW AND POLICY CONCERNING
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

CARACAS FOR RSO

REF: DEPT'S A-7676

1. TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO HAS, AS FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE
TO DETERMINE, NO LAWS WHICH ARE SPECIFICALLY AIMED AT COMBATTING
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. SINCE THE COUNTRY HAS NOT YET EXPERIENCED
ANY CASES OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, IT HAS BEEN CONTENT TO RELY
ON ITS CONVENTIONAL CRIMINAL LAWS TO DEAL WITH THE INTERNAL
ASPECTS OF ANY FUTURE OCCURENCES. ALTHOUGH TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
HAS SIGNED AND RATIFIED THE 1963 TOKYO CONVENTION, THE 1970
HAGUE CONVENTION, AND THE 1971 MONTREAL CONVENTION, IT HAS NOT
YET ENACTED DOMESTIC ENABLING LEGISLATION FOR ANY OF THESE
CONVENTIONS. THE GOTT IS PRESENTLY STUDYING THE 1973 UN
CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF CRIMES AGAINST
INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED PERSONS BUT HAS NOT YET DECIDED
WHETHER TO SIGN AND RATIFY IT. ACCORDING TO AN OFFICER IN THE
LEGAL DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE GOTT
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WILL PROBABLY NOT BECOME A PARTY TO THE 1971 OAS CONVENTION

BECAUSE ITS PROVISIONS ARE SUBSTANTIALLY COVERED BY THE RRN CONVENTION.

2. SINCE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO HAS NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN ANY INCIDENTS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, THERE HAVE BEEN NO INDIVIDUAL CASES, PROSECUTION OR CLEMENCY POLICIES, AND NO OFFICIALLY EXPRESSED CONCERN TO THE EMBASSY ABOUT THE PROBLEM. WHILE WE BELIEVE THE GOTT STRONGLY OPPOSES ACTS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, ITS RESPONSE IN A PARTICULAR SITUATION WILL PROBABLY BE INFLUENCED TO SOME EXTENT BY THE POLITICS OF THE TERRORIST AS THEY RELATE TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S INCREASINGLY "THIRD WORLD"- ORIENTED FOREIGN POLICY AND ITS POSITION AS AN OIL PRODUCING STATE ON THE FRINGES OF OPEC.
MILLER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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